

Written Testimony of Nina Huang,
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Energy and Technology Committee
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Written Testimony Concerning Governor's Bill 6360 AN ACT CONCERNING
IMPLEMENTATION OF CONNECTICUT'S COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY
STRATEGY

I am writing on Governor's Bill 6360. I recently moved into an older apartment building and over the last few months have been shocked at the cost of my heating bills. The problem, I think, is two fold. There is first the problem of being unable to predict my heating expenses from month to month. This leaves me in a permanent state of uncertainty, where I am constantly playing with my heater in an attempt to figure out whether I can afford to have the heater on when I'm home, or whether it's more cost effective to only have it running occasionally. While not eliminating all the uncertainty of heating costs from month to month, requiring landlords to provide tenants with a statement of prior usage for heat expenses would be very beneficial. It would at the very least provide potential tenants with a template for expected heating expenses and give an idea of how much it would cost to be reasonably comfortable during the winter months.

The second part of the problem is that because the building I live in is older, it is very energy inefficient. During particularly windy days, I can actually see the shades on my window move from strong gusts. Providing incentives to landlords and building owners to become more energy efficient, by making energy efficiency a valuable and necessary asset, would be advantageous to both the building owners and tenants. Building owners would see the value of their property rise as they installed energy efficient measures and tenants would reap the benefits by paying lower energy costs. Expanding and properly funding the energy efficiency program would be another way to

achieve the same outcome by allowing more customers to access these energy assessments, rebates and low interest financing and experience the dual perk of increased property value and lower energy costs. Strengthening and expanding the path to energy efficiency would provide positive benefits to such wide swaths of society, including homeowners, building owners, tenants as well as a struggling workforce, that the state should be jumping at the chance to make this investment for the sake of its citizens and businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Nina Huang

1401 Chapel Street

New Haven, CT 06511